GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1773
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
ENVIRONMENTAL SCENARIO
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an effort to take stock of the environmental scenario in the States, the Union Government have decided to come out with a State of Environment report for all States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, whether the Government have signed an agreement with four institutes that will assist the States in making these reports;

(c) if so, the details alongwith the cost of this project; and

(d) the extent to which it has helped and will help the State in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a) to (d): A plan scheme has been incorporated in the Xth Five Year Plan to design and operationalize a participatory and scientifically rigorous State of Environment (SoE) Reporting System in India. An outlay of Rs. 6.00 crores has been provided for the scheme in the 10th Five Year Plan. Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with four National Host Institutions viz: Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi; Development Alternatives, New Delhi; Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad and EPTRI, Hyderabad. Different States and UTs have been assigned to each National Host Institution for carrying out activities under the scheme.

The State of Environment Reports would provide an overview of the environmental scenario for policy formulation and decision making. State Governments and Union Territories are being sensitized on preparation of State of Environment Report for integration of environmental considerations in socio economic planning. The State of Environment reporting will help in assessment of physical parameters, sensitization of development planners and introduction of corrective measures in mainstreaming environmental concerns at the State level.